

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

By the current Amendment, claims 14-19, 21 and 27-30 have been cancelled. The rejection of claims 22-24, 31 and 32 as being anticipated by Muller is respectfully traversed, as is the rejection of claim 25 as being obvious over Muller.

Specifically, each of independent claims 22 and 31 recites a motor that includes *inter alia*

an attracting magnet for magnetically attracting said frame,
said attracting magnet being on an end face of said stator core
such that said attracting magnet faces said through-holes and is
axially spaced from said through-holes.

Because of this attracting magnet, deviation in a thrust direction is prevented by magnetically attracting the rotor to a stator core side. A motor including such an attracting magnet is not taught or suggested by Muller.

In this regard, while the Examiner has equated element 24 of Muller to the claimed "attracting magnet", element 24 of Muller is not "an attracting magnet for magnetically attracting said frame", but rather is a stator coil. Accordingly, because element 24 of Muller is a stator coil and is not an attracting magnet, claims 22 and 31 are not anticipated by Muller. Thus, claims 22-25 and 31-32 are allowable over Muller.

Furthermore, in order to read claims 22 and 31 on Muller, the Examiner had to equate a single element, i.e. coil 24, to two separate and distinct claim elements, i.e. a stator coil and a magnet. It is respectfully submitted that this is an improper and strained interpretation of Muller. And, for this additional reason claims 22 and 31 are not anticipated by Muller.

Neither Applicant's admitted prior art, Moritan et al. nor Oku resolve this deficiency of Muller, and accordingly, claims 22-25, 31 and 32 are also allowable over any possible combination of the prior art relied upon by the Examiner.

Additionally, by the current Amendment claims 13 and 26 have been amended. Specifically, claim 13 has been amended to incorporate thereinto the subject matter of claims 14, 15 and 19. And, claim 26 has been amended to incorporate thereinto the subject matter of claims 27, 28 and 29.

Each of claims 13 and 26 recites a motor that includes *inter alia*
a rotor including...a frame...and... a rotor magnet fixed to
said frame...a cap...and an attracting magnet positioned
outside of said cap.

Accordingly, each of claims 13 and 26 requires a rotor magnet and an attracting magnet. Such a motor including these two magnets is not taught nor suggested by a combination of Applicant's admitted prior art and Oku.

In this regard, while the Examiner has equated magnet 12 of Oku to the claimed "attracting magnet" as recited in former claims 19 and 29 and now recited in claims 13 and 26, magnet 12 is a rotor magnet which is the general equivalent of rotor magnet 103 of the prior art depicted by Figure 9 of the instant application. Accordingly, any combination of Applicant's admitted prior art and Oku would be lacking of the two specific magnets as recited in claims 13 and 26.

In other words, because magnet 12 of Oku is the basic equivalent to magnet 103 of the motor as depicted in Figure 9, any combination of this prior art would not result in a motor including both rotor magnet 103 and rotor magnet 12, but rather would result in a motor having only one of these magnets. Accordingly, a combination of Applicant's admitted prior art and Oku would be lacking of the rotor magnet **and** attracting magnet as recited in each of claims 13 and 26. Thus, claims 13, 20 and 26 are allowable over a combination of Applicant's admitted prior art and Muller.

Moritan et al. does not resolve these deficiencies of Applicant's admitted prior art and Oku, and as expressed above Muller is lacking of an attracting magnet. Thus, claims 13, 20 and 26 are also allowable over any possible combination of the prior art relied upon by the Examiner.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the claims to which changes have been made by the current Amendment. The attached pages are captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner believes that any issues remain which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative by telephone to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

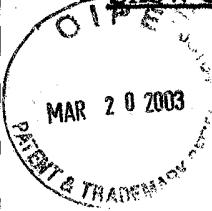
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March 20, 2002

Version with Markings to
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MAR 25 2003

13. A motor comprising:

a bracket defining

- (i) a bearing housing unitarily formed with said bracket and
- (ii) a mounting base for mounting the motor to an apparatus, said mounting base being unitarily formed with said bracket;

a metal fixed to an inner wall of said bearing housing, wherein said metal is [to be] impregnated with oil;

a stator on an outer wall of said bearing housing, said stator including a stator core with a coil therearound;

a rotor including

- (i) a frame having in a top surface thereof through-holes,
- (ii) a shaft fixed to said frame, and
- (iii) a rotor magnet fixed to said frame; [and]

a cap of magnetic material facing said through-holes and spaced axially from said through-holes, said cap being spaced from an outer circumference of said metal and being axially spaced from an end face of said metal, and also being fixed at an [internal] inner circumference of said stator core; and

an attracting magnet positioned outside of said cap.

20. The motor according to claim [19] 13, wherein said cap is fixed at the inner circumference of said stator core by having a body portion of said cap be press-fitted to an inner wall of said stator core while an end portion of said cap is not press-fitted to said inner wall, with said end portion having an end face defining an inner diameter that is less than an inner diameter of said body portion, and with said end face being axially spaced from said frame by a distance that is less than a distance by which an end face of said attracting magnet is spaced from said frame.

26. An apparatus comprising:

a housing; and

a motor mounted within said housing via a mounting base, wherein said motor includes

(i) a bracket defining said mounting base and a bearing housing by having said bearing housing and mounting base be unitarily formed with said bracket,

(ii) a metal fixed to an inner wall of said bearing housing, wherein said metal is [to] [be] impregnated with oil,

(iii) a stator on an outer wall of said bearing housing, said stator including a stator core with a coil therearound,

(iv) a rotor including

(a) a frame having in a top surface thereof through-holes,

(b) a shaft fixed to said frame, and

(c) a rotor magnet fixed to said frame, and

(v) a cap of magnetic material facing said through-holes and spaced axially from said through-holes, said cap being spaced from an outer circumference of said metal and being axially spaced from an end face of said metal, and also being fixed at an [internal] inner circumference of said stator core; and

an attracting magnet positioned outside of said cap.